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# The Tech News Volume 1, Issue 7, October 27 1909

The Students of Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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# TECH NEWS



VOL. I.—NO. 7

WORCESTER, MASS., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1909

PRICE THREE CENTS

## Wireless Association

### E. B. Moore Addresses

#### First Meeting

Thursday afternoon, Oct. 21, an enthusiastic body of nearly fifty Tech men gathered in Room 19, Boynton Hall, for the purpose of forming a wireless association. O. B. Jacobs '10 took the chair and explained the reasons for having such a society: the interest that had been shown, the work done in the past in the wireless line at Tech, and the prospects for the future. A draft of a constitution was then read over and outlined. It was adopted by a unanimous vote. The election of officers was held next, all present at the meeting voting. The result of the election is as follows: President, O. B. Jacobs '10; Vice-president, O. H. Eschholz '11; Secretary, O. I. Lee '11; Treasurer, William C. Brock '13.

Mr. Edmund Burke Moore, president of the Wireless Society of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, then addressed the meeting, outlining the promising future before such organizations, and assuring the co-operation of the M. I. T. Society with the new association. Mr. Moore's remarks were received with the greatest interest, and his presence at the meeting was much appreciated.

It was announced that all wishing to join the association might do so by signing the constitution before the time of the next meeting, after which the process will be as outlined in the constitution, namely, to apply to the secretary, the name to be voted on at the next meeting.

At the time of writing the association has forty-one members, and several others have signified their intention of joining who were not at the meeting. A copy of the constitution will be posted in the Electrical Library.

Quarters have been obtained in the top gallery of the Electrical Engineering Laboratory. Mr. W. T. Goddard '03, of the Locke Insulator Company, has kindly offered to supply the insulators needed for the aerial and leading-in wire. It is hoped to have the aerial up between the ventilators on the Electrical Laboratory within a week. Later it may be raised by means of poles.

A meeting will be held in Room 19, Boynton Hall, at 5 p.m. sharp, to discuss proposed plans for the equipment of the wireless station, and to appoint the necessary committee.

### S. T. S. 17, TECH 0.

Tech met defeat Saturday afternoon at the hands of the Springfield Training School team by the rather large score of 17 to 0. This reverse, however, is by no means discouraging. Last year, after we had been traveling at a speedy clip, the Springfield team surprised all hands by registering a 23 to 0 defeat. Curiously enough, last year the Springfield

eleven won because of the weakness of our ends, and their victory on Saturday may be attributed to the same cause.

It would seem as though this team confines its specialization of play to end work, and when meeting a team of this class, even the best of ends are liable to prove unequal to the task of smashing up the plays, if all the attack is directed towards them.

Our team put up a very creditable game and showed no signs of "going back," which is at least satisfactory. It had been generally admitted before the game that this was the hardest contest on Tech's schedule. Whereas victory had been hoped for, those who follow the game closely couldn't figure better than an even break for Tech on the most optimistic kind of dope. While it did not seem as though three touchdowns would be made, still, on the whole, the work of the team is perfectly satisfactory, and they have passed through their most grueling game, and made a better showing by far than was the case last year; all of which is encouraging, and especially so in view of the fact that that "other team" is not showing a fearful abundance of "class," and on Saturday was defeated at home by a team they trimmed away from home last year.

It's up to every Tech man, in view of all these facts, to stand by the eleven and root for its success for the remainder of this season. There is only one game we really must win, and if we capture that, all the defeats of the season and for seasons back will be forgotten in that one success. If the gods are good, this town won't hold us. Wait and see.

### L. H. S. 11, TECH 2d 5.

Tech Second team was defeated by Leominster High at Leominster, Saturday afternoon, by a score of 11 to 5, in an interesting game. The Second team put up fine football, but their lack of practice proved a severe handicap. They presented a strong line-up and some good individual playing resulted. The lacking team work, however, proved too big a drawback as against the clock-like work of the high school lads.

The most pronounced feature of the game was the work of Leigh, Tech's fullback. Lewis was also in the lime-light breaking through the line, and with a man tagging onto him for fifty yards, made an eighty-yard run before he was downed; then Leigh followed this stunt up by plunging over for Tech's touchdown.

### HEARD IN PHYSICS.

Prof.—"Mr. B., what is the velocity of light?"

Student—"It is"—(aid given by neighbor) "it is 355,000 centigrams per second."

Prof.—"Well, now, let me see—355,000 centigrams will be about 22 bushels. Light travels 22 bushels per second. Wonderful! Next!"

## The Freshmen Win

### Newton's Third Law

#### Demonstrated

The first annual tug-of-war between the freshmen and sophomores was witnessed by over two thousand enthusiastic spectators on the banks and islands of Salisbury Pond. As the time for the pull drew near, class spirit and class rivalry grew intense. At five o'clock, amid the class cheers and songs, Jack Powers lost the toss and Blanchard chose what was evident to all as the best side.

At the first shot, the forty men on each side crouched low; at the second every man pulled with might and main, the rope snapped taut, then fell down, again snapped up, as the men fell into the rhythm of the pull. At the first jerk the freshmen gained a few feet, gradually stopped and slowly surged back. The sophomores had the disadvantages of the slope and the tendency of the rope to lift their men to contend with; if conditions had been equal the result of the pull might have been in doubt.

After their slight loss the freshmen rested, kneeling on the rope, then, taking the sophomores by surprise, with a mighty pull dragged the '12 men over the bank and through the pond at a speed which prevented any of their opponents from obtaining a footing. The third shot proclaimed the freshmen victors.

The time was 11 minutes 6 seconds, which compares favorably with rope-pulls in other colleges. During the entire contest both classes showed a very commendable sportsmanship, and the sophomores are the gamiest losers that Tech has seen in a long while.

The judges were: Prof. Butterfield, J. R. McConnell, C. Pease, H. Waring, P. S. Kennedy and F. Twomey.

The initiative of the idea was taken by Y. S. Chin, ably supported by the Junior Committee and its Chairman, C. T. Leigh, who took the precaution to investigate the unknown perils of Institute Pond, Friday night, by wading through its cold and slimy depths.

### MASS MEETING.

On Saturday we have our first opportunity to see the football team in action, after it has really gotten under way. The last time we saw them perform was at a period when the eleven was in its infancy, so to speak. Now they have had the opportunity of much valuable practice, and have proved their strength in the contests in which they have participated lately.

They play the Rhode Island State College team at the Oval, Saturday afternoon, and should win. From the dope sheet, the contest should be a lively one; but Tech ought to register a victory. It is up to every man, therefore, to support the team both financially and vocally. With the school spirit now prevalent,

there should be an attendance of at least 90 per cent. of the student body, and all hands should look upon it as a duty to be there.

In preparation for the game, it is hoped to have the most rousing mass meeting yet, on Friday afternoon at 5, in the electrical engineering lecture room. There are a number of new cheers to be tried out. The band is performing some mighty clever stunts just at present, and they will be on hand with a big quota of musicians and some inspiring music. There will be a speaker from the faculty, and the winners of the cross-country run trophies will be presented with their hard-earned spoils. If anything definite has been done with regard to the annual "Tech night," it will be brought up at this gathering, and there will be a speaker from the faculty on hand to congratulate the victorious freshman tug-of-war team. Altogether it is going to be a monster meeting, and if you miss it, your Tech spirit is sadly lacking. Make a cross against the date, Friday afternoon at 5, and don't miss it.

### CALENDAR.

- Oct. 27. 5 p.m. Meeting of the Wireless Association in Room 19.
- Oct. 27. 7-7.30 p.m. Y. M. C. A. meeting. Special speaker.
- Oct. 29. 8-10 p.m. Reception to the freshmen by the ladies of the faculty.
- Oct. 30. 12 m. Mass meeting and election of A. A. officers.
- Oct. 30. Rhode Island State vs. W. P. I., at Worcester Oval.
- Oct. 30. Dean Academy vs. W. P. I. Lds, at Dean Academy.
- Nov. 1. Band rehearsal.
- Every day. Football and basket-ball practice.

### ATHLETIC REMINDERS.

The following squad went to Springfield last Saturday: Waring, Clough, Sherman, Schopfer, Frissell, Gleason, Power, Brown, Cleveland, Curley, Tuttle, Sanderson, Dodge and B. J. and M. G. Halligan.

The following squad went to Leominster last Saturday: Spicer, White, Brown '13, Steele, Howard, Reid, Lewis, Walker, Rickett, Baxter, Leigh, Kloss, King and Mitchell.

Don't put off the payment of those athletic dues too long. Pay them now if it does cripple you a little. You'll get over it.

Who isn't going to the Rhode Island-Tech game Saturday?

Jack Power and Birdie Halligan were bright lights again on Saturday.

Three most important reminders this week—that mass meeting; athletic association meeting; and that football game.

How do you like this inter-class basket-ball stunt? Why not take a try at it?

## TECH NEWS

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Worcester Polytechnic Institute

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All communications should be dropped in the Tech News Box.

All checks should be made payable to the Business Manager.

[The Tech News welcomes communications upon pertinent subjects at any time, but does not hold itself responsible for the opinions therein expressed.]

All material should be in before Monday noon at the latest in order to have it appear in the week's issue.

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The tug-of-war held between the two lower classes last week introduces a safe and sane form of rivalry among the students. It not only helps to do away with the class rushes, with their tendency to bring a deplorable notoriety upon the school, but substitutes a clean and manly sport, in which many can participate, and gives the classes an opportunity to show their school spirit and to use up their surplus energy other than by decorating (?) Institute property with red paint.

We sincerely hope that a rope-pull between these classes will continue to be an annual event, ranking in importance with the Tech-Holy Cross game.

The idea of a student wireless association on Tech Hill has taken definite shape. The first meeting last week was a gratifying success, and the organization promises a very active life. An excellent opening is now offered for those interested, to obtain a valuable insight of the theory and practice of radio-telegraphy and telephony—subjects which the curriculum has found itself unable to accommodate, although their rapidly increasing commercial and technical importance is fully recognized.

### ALUMNI NOTES.

E. C. Merrill '06 is with the Bureau of Chemistry, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Mr. Merrill has been in the Chemical Laboratory of the United States Navy Yard, Brooklyn, N. Y.

W. S. Graffam '00 has accepted a position in the Mechanical Department of the Smith Agricultural School, Northampton, Mass. Mr. Graffam has been Director of the School of Manual Arts and Applied Science at Howard University, Washington, D. C.

The examination of Mr. W. T. Goddard '03 for the degree of Electrical Engineer will be held next Wednesday. The subject of Mr. Goddard's thesis is "High Voltage Porcelain Insulators." For the past three or four years Mr. Goddard has held the position of electrical engineer with the Locke Insulator Company, Victor, N. Y.

B. L. Moore, '08 Civil, and C. W. Burlin, '09 Civil, are employed in surveying work by O. & W. R. R. Company, Scranton, Pa.

## Institute News

### A New Text

#### Book

P. Blakiston's Son & Company have recently published a book written by Dr. A. W. Ewell, of the Department of Physics, under the title of "A Text Book of Physical Chemistry, Theory and Practice." The book contains 370 pages, 102 illustrations and 63 tables. It is intended to serve as a laboratory manual, as a text book to accompany lectures or recitations, and as a convenient book of reference. The first seventy-eight pages are devoted to a description of all the important apparatus and methods of physical chemistry, together with a discussion of errors, mathematical methods, etc. The main portion of the book contains all the important principles, theorems, and equations of physical and electro-chemistry derived from fundamental principles, complete directions for sixty laboratory experiments, and a description of instructive applications, such as the liquefaction of gases, the production of ozone, oxides of nitrogen, etc. Over three hundred and fifty problems and questions are scattered throughout the book. The final section of the book contains tables of the most recent determinations of densities, vapor pressures, and all the constants employed in physical chemistry.

During the last two weeks, a new granolithic sidewalk, extending the entire length of the Institute grounds on West Street, has been put in. This completes the system of granolithic sidewalks which was begun a year ago by the Trustees and which now connects all the different buildings of the Institute.

### PRIZE FOR THE CIVILS.

Through the generosity of the Technical Supply Company, of New York City, the Department of Civil Engineering of the Institute is again able to offer a set of their "Tech" drawing instruments as a prize to juniors in their work in technical drawing. A similar set was awarded last year to S. M. Poutier '10, of Buffalo, N. Y., and the year before to W. I. Barrows '09, of Auburn. The drawings on which the prize will be

awarded are those in stereotomy and railroad engineering.

Those in stereotomy include the design of a spillway, a recessed flat arch, an arch culvert and an oblique arch, and those in railroad design, a tracing and profile of the line projected in the field during September, the design of a double slip switch crossing, the design of a freight yard, and the detailed design of a frog and switch.

The judges of the work will be the four instructors in the Department of Civil Engineering, and the following points of excellence will be considered: accuracy of construction and design; quality of mechanical workmanship; character of lettering and dimensioning; and the general appearance of the whole drawing.

### CHEMICAL CLUB MEETING.

The Worcester Chemical Club held its first informal meeting in one of the chemical lecture rooms, in the Salisbury Laboratories to-night. The programme was entirely by members of the club, and included the following: "Remarks on Certain Analytical Methods," by Rev. George L. Coyle, S. J., of Holy Cross College; "Etymology of Antimony," by M. J. Callahan '11; "Action of Radium on Metallic Salts," by C. Dantsizen '10; "Chemical Schedule of the Payne Tariff," by E. M. Flaherty '11; and "Quantitative Separation of Iron, Chromium and Aluminum," by R. R. Stevens '11. When the club was organized two weeks ago, it was voted to continue the policy inaugurated last year in which every alternate meeting is to be of a public nature, with some outside speaker, and to which the interested public is invited. The meeting on the evening of November 8 will be of this nature, and Prof. Gilbert N. Lewis of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has been secured and will lecture on the "Ionic Theory."

The annual meeting of the American Chemical Society will be held this year in Boston during the week of December 27, 1909. This is one of the largest organizations of scientists in the world, having over 4,000 members, including nearly all the prominent chemists in America, and many foreign chemists as well. Dr. L. P. Kinnicutt is a member of the present executive board. The meeting will be held in connection with

the meeting of the Allied Societies for the Advancement of Science.

### TECH ATTRACTED JAPANESE COMMERCIAL LEADERS.

The party of the foremost Japanese commercial leaders that the "Sunrise Empire" has ever sent abroad came to Worcester yesterday. It consists of Baron Shibusawa, known to this country as the "J. D. Rockefeller in Japan," His Excellency Nakano, president of Tokio Chamber of Commerce, and other eminent nobles, statesmen and capitalists of that country. Having been received by Mayor Logan, the party was divided into five groups, two of which visited Tech at 9 a.m. They were conducted by President Engler through the different buildings on the Hill. The presence of R. Onuki, a P. G. here, added to their interest in Tech, as some of the members in the party are Onuki's old friends. During the visit they were very much impressed by the extensive labs. and the complete equipment of the Institute.

The Purdue Exponent, upon noticing that the Daily Illini has a column headed "Births," says that they, too, must have such a column and asks if some Purdue man will come to the rescue.

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On the evening of October 22 this Branch was addressed by Mr. W. T. Goddard, electrical engineer for the Locke Insular & Mfg. Co., on the subject, "Some Recent Developments in High Voltage Line Insulation."

Mr. Goddard explained at the beginning of his talk the relative merits of glass and porcelain for insulating material, showing why the latter is preferable for high tension work, and after a short consideration of the materials used in the manufacture of this substance, which are principally clay, feldspar and flint, the process of manufacture was explained with the aid of a number of interesting lantern slides.

The process of testing the finished product was shown, some of the difficulties met with explained, and reasons shown for the forms of construction employed in the various types of line insulators. The relative merits of suspension and pin type forms were given, along with sketches showing the structural features of each.

Later taking up the line construction which demands such insulators, Mr. Goddard showed a number of types of pole line in use, the precautions taken for protection of men and line from lightning and short circuits, explaining the weak and strong points of each. Some special types of insulators were shown, along with several methods of passing high tension lines through the walls of power stations.

In the discussion at the conclusion of the lecture, Mr. Goddard spoke briefly of some work on wireless telegraph circuits with which his company has been connected.

Sixty members and friends attended this very interesting lecture.

#### EVERYMAN'S CLUB.

The coming winter ought to be a very successful one for Y. M. C. A. work, with the various activities that have been planned. The State Association has kept in touch with us and the problems to be met with here at Tech, and stands ready to lend assistance at any time if needed. Outside speakers are being obtained right along, and the talks given, supplemented by the subsequent discussions, prove of lasting value to all who attend. Unlike the department societies and other specialized organizations, this association is of more general interest. Its field is broader, its aims ethical, rather than technical. The Institute is full of potential leaders, men whose future influence, when felt, should be of the best and cleanest sort, men who will have high ideals of their use and service to their communities. Where do you stand?

Like a well-built structure, the association is supported by its foundation, the students and members of the faculty, who belong, and we aim to broaden our foundation. It is everyone's privilege to join. Make it, then, your business.

Towards the last of December, an international conference of the Student Volunteer movement will be held at Rochester, N. Y. The W. P. I. Association

will send P. C. Kneel '11, L. W. Treadwell '12, and R. G. Gold '10.

Do you know Latourette of Yale? He has promised us a talk in November.

To-night R. W. Murphy, president of the Citizens' No-license Committee, will speak on points of interest to Tech men concerning prohibition. To be or not to be? If you care to hear the answer, drop in at the Y. M. C. A. room at 7.

#### WORCESTER THEATRE.

"The Thief," which was an undisputed success everywhere with Kyrle Bellew and Margaret Illington, will be seen at the Worcester Theatre this week Friday and Saturday, with a Saturday matinee.

Next week will see the house filled every night by three very interesting plays. Monday night a complete production of "The House of a Thousand Candles," on Tuesday night and Wednesday matinee and night Frederic Thompson's great scenic production, "Brewster's Millions," will be the offering, and on Tuesday night the election returns of the country will be read from the stage.

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights with Saturday matinee, Henry B. Harris will present a complete production of "The Third Degree."

#### FRANKLIN SQUARE THEATRE

This week, "Wanted by the Police." Next week Augustus Thomas' great American play, "Arizona," a large and expensive production. It was successfully produced at the Academy of Music, New York, where it played an engagement of 150 nights.

#### "APRES NOUS, LE DELUGE".

Tuesday noon the freshman class assembled on the Electrical Engineering Laboratory steps, was about to be immortalized by a photographer when the proceedings were rudely interrupted by some wide-awake sophomores, backed by the persuasive stream of the fire hose wielded from a posterior point of vantage. The freshmen rapidly retreated in much disorder, but executed a flank movement and attempted to fight fire with fire (figuratively speaking) by means of the other hose, with the wet result that honors were about evenly divided, although the freshmen finally had their picture taken. It has been suggested that it would be well to provide the ground floor of the laboratory with an aqueduct leading to Institute Pond.

A chic young enchantress named Maude, Had a shape that was plainly a fraude. While out walking one day All the buttons gave way, And the bystanders hollered, "My G—e!"

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## NEWS OF THE COLLEGES.

University of Michigan has a fifty-year-old freshman in Captain Sealby of the White Star steamer Republic which was sunk in collision last February.

A tug-of-war across University Lake is to be instituted this year in place of the annual flag rush at the University of Colorado.

The enrollment at the University of Illinois is approximately 5,000, making it the largest State university in America.

Three women are taking engineering courses at Wisconsin University.

The Pennsylvanian, the daily of the University of Pennsylvania, has plans for a wireless station to communicate with Cornell, Columbia and Princeton. Intercollegiate notes will thus be exchanged daily between the universities.

Fifty Chinese indemnity students, one of them a young woman, have sailed for San Francisco on board the steamship China.

The first gain in registration at Harvard University in five years is shown in the figures for this year. Excepting the summer school, Andover Theological Seminary and Radcliffe College, the total registration for the University is 3994, a gain of 125 over the registration figures of last year.

A gain of 71 students in the law school brought the attendance there to 307, the largest in its history. The dental school, just installed in new quarters, shows an increase of 22 students.

During their free hours, students at Columbia earned last year \$100,233.36.

The Norwegian Club of University of Minnesota will present this year Ibsen's play, "Pillars of Society." The play is to be presented in Norwegian.

The sophomore co-eds of Tufts College, following the precedent of their more strenuous classmates, have issued a poster containing dire warnings to the freshmen.

Registration at the College of Engineering of Illinois University has increased 8 per cent. in the last year, from 1179 to 1275.

## BASKET-BALL.

The basket-ball candidates have started preliminary training in the temporary location for practice on the school tennis courts. A good sized number of candidates have responded and practice is now getting well under way. From the outlook at present the prospects for a fast team this season are of the best and a banner record is expected. Captain Walter T. Fitzpatrick is coaching the men and working hard to instruct the lesser experienced.

A new plan is to be inaugurated next Monday in the form of an inter-class basket-ball league. A series of games will be played to decide which class secures the championship. There should be a lot of interest aroused in the game in this way, and a good line on promising material should thus be secured.

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## W. P. I. A. A.

The annual meeting of the W. P. I. Athletic Association will be held on Saturday noon in Boynton Hall, and it is the duty of every loyal Tech man to attend and have a voice in the election of officers and the betterment of athletics at the Institute. Every registered student is a member of the association and is entitled to a vote. The following list of officers has been nominated:

President, Waring '10; Fitzpatrick '10; Vice-president, Halligan '11, Spicer '11; Secretary, Sherman '12, Slocomb '12, Gleason '12; Treasurer, Sanderson '11, Nims '11, Jacobsen '11; 1910 Director, Atherton, Kennedy, Pease; 1911 Director, Brown, Landon, Sanderson, Read; 1912 Director, Power, Potter, Frissell; 1913 Director, Clough, Crouch, Schopfer, Porter.

## CHEER LEADER.

Last year the first move was made and a cheer leader elected. Necessarily it was a hard proposition to handle, but it is safe to say that considerable progress has been made, and in the right direction. Sheets of Tech songs and cheers up-to-date were printed and are now in the hands of every student who ever attended a mass meeting. A number of rousing mass meetings have been held, and there is no doubt but that an inestimable amount of good has been done in establishing Tech spirit, and a far stronger view on athletics at the Institute than ever before.

There is naturally room for much improvement and development in the future, however, and the filling of this office should be carefully considered and a man elected to it who is willing to "get into the game" and stand for the criticism which is always being hurled at him, and profit by the best of it. The holder of this office surely does as much work as a manager of a team, and it would seem that a move in the right direction would be to vote to him the same kind of W as is given the managers. In this way the office would be made a responsible one and the results should be of the best.

## INDOOR TRACK.

The candidates for the indoor track team will be called out shortly, possibly this week. We have been more successful in track than in any other sport at the Institute, and last year was a banner year. Practically all of the old teams are back, and there is no telling what may happen this year.

After many years, Tech is going to make application for re-admission into the New England Inter-collegiate Association, and again make a bid to be such a recognized factor in track athletics as was the case a dozen or more years ago, before lack of material caused the school to forfeit its membership in the association.

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THIS WEEK—MATINEES DAILY

Wanted by the Police

Matinees 10, 20

Evenings 10, 20, 30, 50

It is a matter of history that Tech is practically the founder of the N. E. I. A., inasmuch as it put it on its feet when it threatened to fall to pieces in its infancy, made it a paying proposition for the first time, and thus started it on the great growth to which it has now attained. In view of this fact, it is not thought that we shall have any trouble securing membership.

Just a word as to our indoor track athletics. Last year, a relay team was formed for the first time in about fifteen years, and it achieved great success. Every one of its regular members is again in line, and the outlook is very promising. This year it is planned to carry a few extra athletes outside of the relay team, and thus give men in all branches of the sport, who also can compete indoors, a chance to show their prowess. It was proved last year that indoor training was of immense value for outdoor work, and if we are going into the inter-collegiate this year, we want to leave no stone unturned to make a good showing.

Captain Kennedy, in view of the great showing made by the freshmen in the cross-countries, and other signs of athletic ability and spirit which they have evidenced, is looking for much promising material from among their number, and will be glad if any prospective candidates will communicate with him either by letter or personally.

It is urged that every man who has ever been in track athletics will attend the first gathering of track candidates, at least to talk the matter over, and it is hoped that every fellow who takes the slightest interest in track will also come out and "take a chance." Some of our best track men here have been developed without any previous experience, and, finding themselves unsuccessful at other branches of sport, have tried the one sport where a man either makes good or fails all by himself. Let every fellow who has free use of his limbs come out and make an attempt at the first call, or, at least, talk the matter over.

The matter of participating in a big indoor meet in Worcester on December 13, is at present under advisement.

New York University has started a school of journalism, with several experienced newspaper men as instructors.

Nebraska is also laboring over a new official song, and what the name of such song should be.

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